

Pappas Telecasting Companies' 'donation' of \$325,000 in  
airtime to Republican candidates in certain areas is yet  
another example of a powerful media group abusing its  
privileged access to the public airwaves.

Localism is not served when a corporate headquarters  
decides to provide one side in local elections a louder  
voice than others. During election season, local audiences should be offered  
genuine debate -- not disingenuous offers to "purchase" an equal amount of  
response time.

Pappas uses the public airwaves free of charge and is  
obligated by law to serve the public interest. Pappas'  
actions are legally questionable and cast doubt on whether Pappas truly  
intends to serve the public interest. Their actions show  
why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them.  
Further, they show why the license renewal process  
needs to involve more than just a returned postcard. Thank you.

I fully support the above statement. Margret Elson